

REMARKS

Claims 44-52, 54, and 57-68 are pending in the present application. In the office action mailed April 8, 2004 (the "Office Action"), claims 44, 45, 49, 50, 52, 54, 59, 63, 65, and 67 were objected to, but would be allowable if amended according to the amendments proposed in the Office Action. After a telephone conference with the Examiner in which alternative amendments were discussed, claims 44, 49, 54, 59, 63, 65, and 67 have been amended accordingly to place the claims in condition for allowance.

All of the claims pending in the current application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and a timely Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:

Postcard
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